

# Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

10/690,856

**Applicant(s)**

TSAI ET AL.

**Examiner**

ANNAN Q. SHANG

**Art Unit**

2623

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 December 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-33 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 5-9 and 15-20 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 10-14 and 21-33 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB-08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Response to Arguments*

1. Applicant's arguments filed 12/19/07 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

With respect to the rejection of claims 1-4, 10-14 and 21-33, rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by **Radha et al (6,806,909)**, applicant discusses the claimed invention and the prior art of record and further argues that "...there is no teaching in the cited portions of Radha that the stream has the same PID value..."(see page 7 of 9+ of Applicant's Remarks).

In response, Examiner notes Applicant's arguments, however, Examiner disagrees. Radha teaches that "...the method of the invention for splicing MPEG-2 multimedia programs, in the same or different multimedia data streams..." (col.5, lines 29-31). Furthermore Radha teaches transitioning seamlessly from a first video stream to the second video have the same PID value (time value). In other words seamless transition takes place if the first video PID value (time value) is equal to the second video PID value (time value) (col.5, lines 55-59, col.7, lines 51-55, col.10, line 7-27 and col.15, line 42-col.16, line 63). Hence Applicant's arguments are not persuasive. The 102(e) rejection is proper, meets are the claims limitations as repeated below in the office action.

Applicant further amends claim 10 and argues that the prior art of record do not teach the amended claim limitations.

In response, Examiner disagrees. Radha further discloses that, "...pack the data stream into disks blocks and...groups of blocks are striped within the HDS..." and "...reading or writing all the files in all the HDSs..." The HDS (hard drive systems contains redundant arrays of inexpensive disks 'RAID') (col.17, lines 22-47, col.18, line 60-col.18, line 40, col.20, lines 13-35 and col.21, lines 1-41). Hence the amendment to the claims do not overcome the prior art of record as discussed below. **This office action is made Final.**

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-4, 10-14, 21-26 and 28-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by **Radha et al (6,806,909)** previously cited.

As to claim 1, note the **Radha** reference figures 3-12, discloses seamless splicing of MPEG-2 multimedia data streams, the method comprising:

Serving a first video stream with a packet identifier (PID) value (fig.3, col.5, line 29-col.6, line 1+, col.9, line 41-col.10, line 27 and col.17, lines 48-59);

Determining (CPU 351) shifts needed to be applied to timing information in a second video stream in order to generate recalculated timing information; replacing the

timing information in the second video stream with the recalculated timing information, where the shifts are determined based on a last received clock (figs.10-11, col.15, line 42-col.16, line 63, col.18, line 51-col.19, line 30, line 31-col.20, line 41 and col.21, lines 1-41);

Transitioning (CPU 351) in an immediate and smooth manner to a second video stream having the same PID value and serving the second video stream (col.15, line 42-col.16, line 63, col.18, line 51-col.19, line 30, line 31-col.20, line 41 and col.21, lines 1-41).

As to claims 2-3, Radha further discloses where transitioning in an immediate and smooth manner comprises transitioning without an unsynchronized delay at a beginning of the second video stream and without an unstable period at an end of the first video stream and further comprises transitioning without an unsynchronized delay at a beginning of the second video stream and without an unstable period at the end of the first video stream (col.18, line 51-col.19, line 30, line 31-col.20, line 41 and col.21, lines 1-41).

As to claim 10, the claimed "A method for transitioning between digital video streams..." is composed of the same structural elements that were discussed with respect to the rejection of claim 1. Furthermore Radha further discloses transmitting a first video stream; where the first video stream has associated with it a plurality of transition points comprising respective beginnings of a stripe section of a storage drive in a storage array (col.17, lines 22-47, col.18, line 60-col.18, line 40, col.20, lines 13-35 and col.21, lines 1-41)

As to claims 11-12, 2-3, Radha further discloses where the timing information includes decoding and presentation time stamps and includes clock reference values (col.15, line 42-col.16, line 63, col.18, line 51-col.19, line 30, line 31-col.20, line 41 and col.21, lines 1-41).

As to claims 11-12, 2-3, Radha further discloses where the method is performed at a distribution head end and at a remote hub of a distribution system (col.17, line 48-col.18, line 1+).

As to claims 21-22, 2-3, Radha further discloses where the shifts applied to timing information are adapted to a lag between the time of a transition at a server and the time of the transition at a subscriber station and where the shifts comprise differences between a program clock reference of the first video stream and a program clock reference of the second video stream (col.15, line 42-col.16, line 63, col.18, line 51-col.19, line 30, line 31-col.20, line 41 and col.21, lines 1-41).

As to claims 23-26, 28, 29, 2-3, Radha further discloses where a first packet including recalculated timing information is associated with discontinuity indicator, where the discontinuity indicator is adapted to cause a clock reset at a subscriber station, where the first video stream has associated with a plurality of transition points, each transition point identified via a discontinuity indicator (col.15, line 42-col.16, line 63, col.18, line 51-col.19, line 30, line 31-col.20, line 41 and col.21, lines 1-41), where the transition points are associated with respective reference frames, where the transition points comprise respective beginnings of a stripe sections of a storage drive in a storage array, where the transition points are associated with respective reference

frames and where the transition points are associated with respective NULL packets (col.15, line 42-col.16, line 63, col.18, line 51-col.19, line 30, line 31-col.20, line 41 and col.21, lines 1-41).

As to claims 30-33, 2-3, Radha further discloses receiving a signal to transition from the video to the second video stream and removing packets of the first video and transmitting picture repeat packets in substitute, where the picture repeat packets comprise zero motion vectors, further comprises after receiving the signal to transition and before removing packets, transmitting packets of the first video stream until a first packet comprising a reference picture, receiving a signal to transition from the first video stream to the second video stream and removing packets of the first video stream and inserting NUL packets in substitute (col.15, line 42-col.16, line 63, col.18, line 51-col.19, line 30, line 31-col.20, line 41 and col.21, lines 1-41).

### ***Conclusion***

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

DeMoney (6,065,050) discloses system and method for indexing between trick play and normal play video streams in a video delivery system.

Egawa et al (5,534,944) disclose method of splicing MPEG encoded video.

Moeller et al (5,828,370) disclose video delivery system and method for displaying indexing slider bar on the subscriber video screen.

Ottesen et al (5,721,815) disclose media-on-demand communication system and method employing direct access storage device.

5. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Annan Q. Shang** whose telephone number is **571-272-7355**. The examiner can normally be reached on **700am-400pm**.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Christopher S. Kelley** can be reached on **571-272-7331**. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is **571-273-8300**.+++

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the **Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free)**. If you would like assistance from a **USPTO Customer Service Representative** or access to the automated information system, **call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000**.

/Annan Q Shang/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2623

**Annan Q. Shang**